

# Master's of Environmental and Sustainability Studies Research Defenses

Fall 2018 - Summer 2019

## Kristen Gold

Thesis: "Factors that determine the spatial distribution of an introduced species, *Phrynosoma cornutum*, in South Carolina"

Friday, November 16th at 11:00 a.m.  
SSMB 255



Advisor: Dr. Eric McElroy  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Courtney Murren  
Dr. Brian Scholtens  
Emma Paz

## Amanda Voges

Internship: "Aquatic ecosystem restoration opportunities to improve the coastal resilience of the City of Charleston"

Tuesday, November 27th at 2:00 p.m.  
SSMB 255



Academic Advisor: Dr. Annette Watson  
Internship Advisor: Joshua Robinson  
Committee members:  
Dr. Barbara Beckingham  
Dr. Todd LeVasseur

## Brian Palus

Thesis: "Low-altitude Remote Sensing Applications for Critical Zone Management in South Carolina, USA"

Tuesday, December 4th at 2:00 p.m.  
SSMB 255



Academic Advisor: Dr. Norman Levine  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Timothy Callahan  
Melinda Lucka Kelley  
Daniel Burger

## Alex Braud

Thesis: "Estimating the Storm Protection Value of Coastal Dunes: A Geospatial Approach"

Friday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m.  
SSMB 255

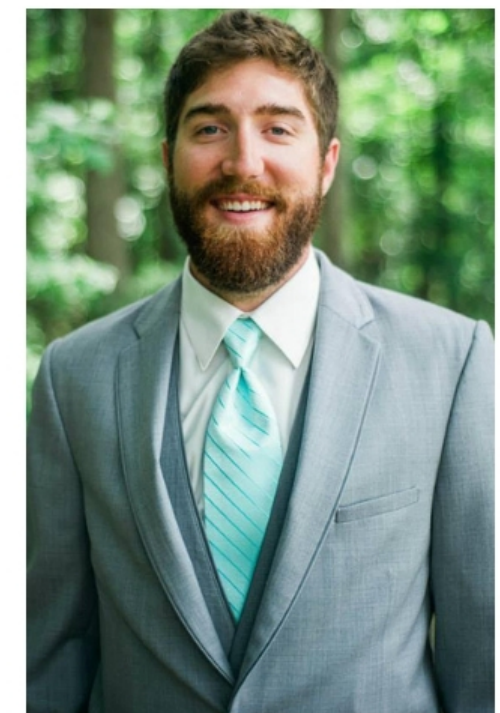


Academic Advisor: Dr. Norman Levine  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Calvin Blackwell  
Dr. Nicole Elko  
Dr. Elizabeth Fly

## David Flanagan

Thesis: "Bio-optical inversion modeling of the nearshore waters in the US Virgin Islands"

Wednesday, March 13th at 11:00 a.m.  
SSMB 200



Academic Advisor: Dr. Adem Ali  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Marilyn Brandt  
Dr. Narayanan Kuthirummal  
Dr. Norman Levine

## Ashton Basar

Thesis: "The Role of Ambient Temperature and Influenza Outbreaks: A Case Study of the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic"

Wednesday, April 3rd at 10:00 a.m.  
SSMB 255



Academic Advisor: Dr. Brian Bossack  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Norman Levine  
Dr. Matthew Nowlin  
Dr. Jacob Steere-Williams

## Zach Spencer

Internship: "The Creation of a Master Plan for Guidance and Direction of the Battery to Beach Non-Profit Bicycle Infrastructure Program"

Thursday, April 4th at 2:00 p.m.  
SSMB 138



Academic Advisor: Dr. Norman Levine  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Morgan Hughey  
Dr. Kendra Stewart  
Katie Zimmerman

## Lee Bundrick

Thesis: "Coastal Residents Perspectives on Environmental Health Risk Factors: Analysis Using Cultural Theory and Deliberative Discussion"

Monday, April 8 at 11:00 a.m.  
SSMB 255



Academic Advisor: Dr. Matthew Nowlin  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Susan Lovelace  
Dr. Paul Sandifer  
Dr. Kendra Stewart

## Lucas Hernandez

Thesis: "Understanding Coastal Resilience and Natural Disaster Preparedness Through Roster-Based Flood Modeling: Kiawah Island, SC"

Tuesday, April 9th at 2:00 p.m.  
SSMB 253



Academic Advisor: Dr. Norman Levine  
Committee Members:  
Dr. John Leffler  
Dr. Matthew Nowlin  
Dr. Kendra Stewart

## Jeanette Huber

Thesis: "Phylogeography and Genetic Variation of the Endangered Sawfish (Family Pristidae)"

Wednesday, April 24th at 11:00 a.m.  
MRRI Auditorium at Fort Johnson



Academic Advisor: Dr. Gavin Naylor  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Tanya Darden  
Dr. Leslie Hart  
Dr. Allan Strand

## Megan Shearer

Thesis: "Program Development for Integrated Pest Management of Fire Ants in South Carolina School Gardens"

Tuesday, June 18th at 10:00 a.m.  
SSMB 253



Academic Advisor: Dr. Seth Pritchard  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Brian Scholtens  
Amy Dabbs  
Jennifer Scales

## Hannah Kuhl

Thesis: "Stormwater and Tidal Hydraulics in an Urban Coastal Watershed: Land Use Change Impacts"

Thursday, July 18th at 9:30 a.m.  
SSMB 255



Academic Advisor: Dr. Timothy Callahan  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Diane De Steven  
Dr. Courtney Murren  
Joshua Robinson

## Chelsea Woodruff

Thesis: "Assessment of Willingness to Pay for Coral-Safe Sunscreens"

Thursday, July 18th at 11:00 a.m.  
SSMB 253

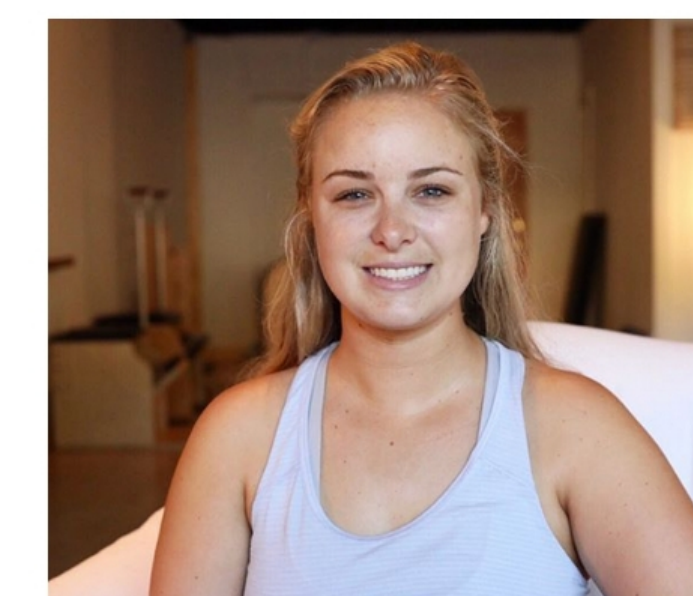


Academic Advisor: Dr. Wesley Burnett  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Julia Blose  
Dr. David Hansen  
Andrew Shuler

## Eliza Nixon

Internship: "An Evaluation of Students' Knowledge Retention and Attitude Towards the Coastal Ecosystem as Participants in the From Seeds to Shoreline Project"

Friday, August 2nd at 10:00 a.m.  
SSMB 255



Academic Advisor: Dr. Matthew Nowlin  
Committee Members:  
Dr. William Veal  
Julie Binz  
Cynthia Hall



# Master's of Environmental and Sustainability Studies Research Defenses

Fall 2019 – Summer 2020

## Joey Coz

Thesis: "A Coastal Flood Climatology for the Lowcountry"

Tuesday, November 5th at 2:00 p.m.  
RITA 336

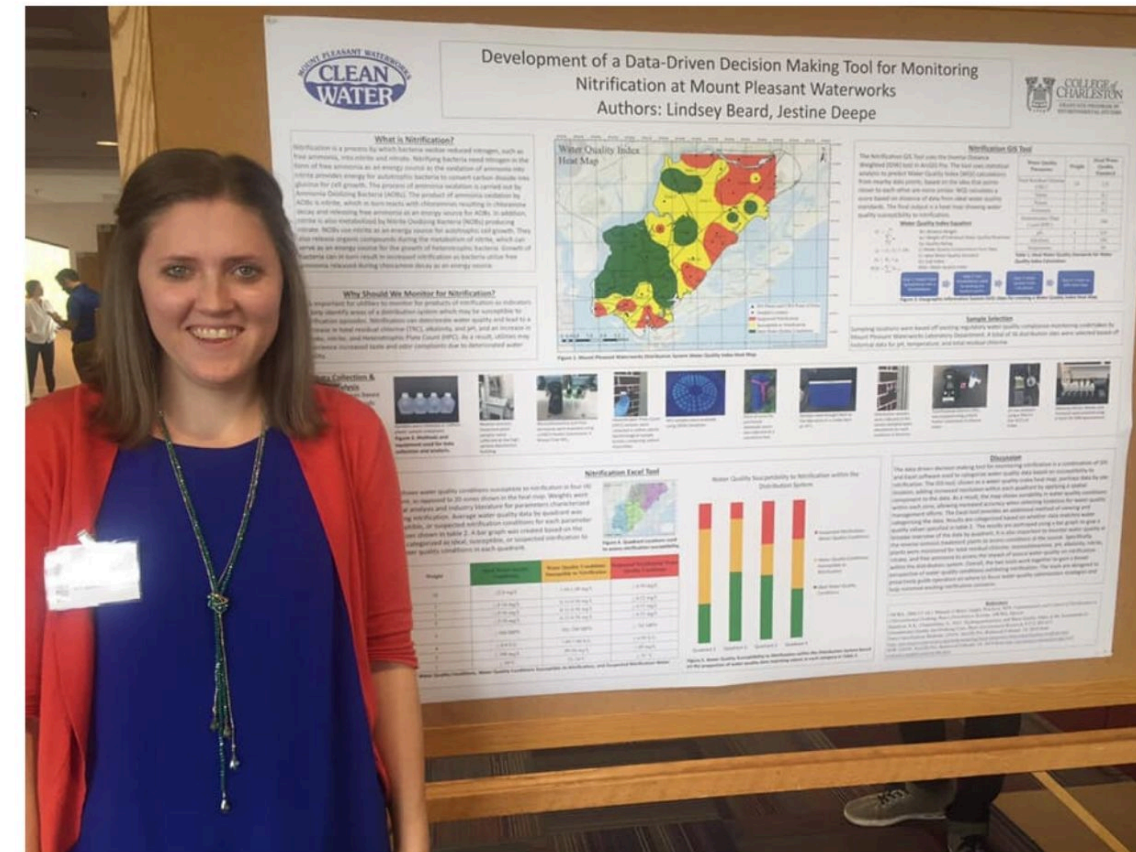


Academic Advisor: Dr. B. Lee Lindner  
Committee Members:  
Frank Alsheimer  
Dan Burger  
Dr. Matthew Nowlin

## Lindsey Beard

Internship: "Development of a Data-Driven Decision Management Tool for Monitoring Nitrification at Mount Pleasant Waterworks"

Friday, November 15th at 10:00 a.m.  
SSMB 200



Academic Advisor: Jestin Deepe  
Committee Members:  
Allan Clum  
Dr. Heather Fullerton  
Dr. Barbara Beckingham

## Brittney Parker

Thesis: "Microplastic occurrence in fishes from an urban estuary: A study on the influence of feeding characteristics on exposure risk in the Charleston Harbor estuary"

Friday, November 15th at 1:00 p.m.  
SSMB 245



Academic Advisor: Dr. Gorka Sancho  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Barbara Beckingham  
Dr. John Weinstein  
Dr. Joseph Ballenger

## Casey Conrad

Thesis: "The use of an L-THIA basee modified curve number runoff model for flood hazard mapping in Charleston, SC."

Friday, December 12th at 10 a.m.  
SSMB 238



Academic Adviser: Dr. Norman Levine  
Committee Members:  
Landon Knapp  
Dr. Susan Lovelace  
Dr. Adem Ali

## Anthony Galavotti

Internship: "Reducing the Environmental Impact of the Charleston Parks Conservancy Through the Creation of an Environmental Sustainability Initiative"

Thursday, February 20th at 2:30 p.m.  
SSMB 138



Academic Advisor: Dr. Barry Stiefel  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Todd LeVasseur  
Harry Lesesne  
Leslie Wade

## Taylor Miller

Thesis: "Integrating Blockchain Technology Within the Lowe's Company Inc. to Enhance Traceability and Verify Wood Certification Along the Supply Chain"

Thursday, March 26th at 3:00 p.m.  
SSMB 138



Academic Advisor: Dr. Kent Gourdin  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Gioconda Quesada  
Chris Cassell  
Lancie Affonso

## Abi Locatis

Thesis: "South Carolina Lowcountry Landowners' Knowledge and Perceptions and the Impacts of Land Management Actions on Isolated Wetlands"

Friday, November 22th at 10 a.m.  
Jewish Studies Center Room 333



Academic Advisor: Dr. Annette Watson  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Gerald Gordon  
Dr. Kendra Stewart  
Dr. Tim Callahan

## Jonathan Cauthen

Internship: "Environmental Education and Ecotourism in Coastal South Carolina"

May 13th 2020  
Prerecorded Online Defense via Zoom



Academic Advisor: Dr. Melissa Hughes  
Committee Members:  
Matthew Johnson  
Dr. Matthew Nowlin  
Dr. Paul Nolan

## Luz Agudelo

Thesis: "An Analysis of Community Resilience to Flood/Hurricane Hazards in Charleston, SC"

Friday, May 15th at 2:30 p.m.  
Virtual Zoom Meeting



Academic Advisor: Dr. Annette Watson  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Elizabeth Fly  
Dr. Norman Levine  
Dr. Kendra Stewart

## Ruth Eklund Manley

Thesis: "Shoreline Exposure and Human Health in the Gulf of Mexico"

July 9th 2020  
11:00 AM via Zoom

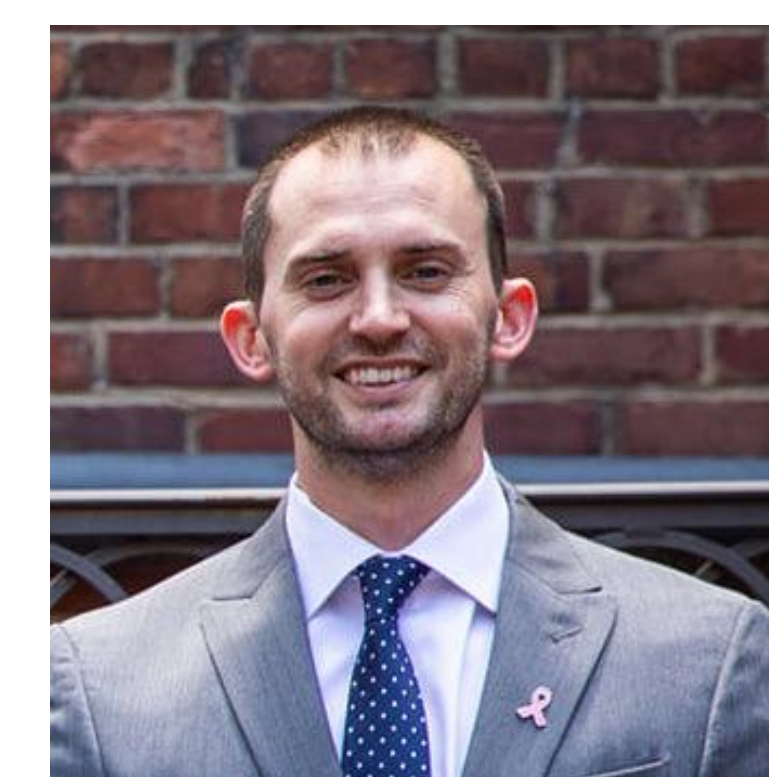


Academic Advisor: Dr. Paul Sandifer  
Committee Members:  
Dr. Susan Lovelace  
Dr. Norman Levine  
Landon Knapp

## Christopher Brown

Thesis: "The Impact of Infrastructure on the Natural Hydrologic Processes of Coastal Tidal Watersheds"

July 23th, 2020 9:30 AM via Zoom



Academic Advisor: Dr. Timothy Callahan  
Committee Members:  
Joshua Robinson  
Dr. Susan Lovelace  
Dr. Adem Ali